

Government of Alberta ■ Transportation	TEMPORARY SIGNAGE		<i>Issued: FEB 2007</i>
			<i>Revised: MAR 2010</i>
			<i>Page 1 of 3</i>
RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	PART	HIGHWAY SIGNS	
	SECTION	MISCELLANEOUS SIGNS	
	SUB-SECTION	TEMPORARY	

General

Temporary signage is intended to be informational or directional in nature, providing direction to temporary event sites or information about an event.

The safety and aesthetics of temporary signs are principal concerns for Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation.

Standard

Signs that are not in compliance with the Traffic Safety Act and the Public Highways Development Act (PHDA) Highway Development Control Regulation (Alberta Regulation 242/90), Section 13, will not be permitted.

Signs not requiring a permit from Alberta Transportation must be designed such that the message is sufficiently short and readable so it does not excessively distract motorists from their primary task, driving safely and responding to stimuli on the roadway.

All temporary signs should be installed such that they are crashworthy and do not pose a hazard to errant vehicles. The Recommended Practices Placement of Signs guideline provides best practice information.

Special Event Signage

Many social and recreational events occur throughout the province each year. The installation of temporary signs to advise and direct the public to these events will be permitted on the following basis.

Major Event

Major events usually exceed one day in duration, are of interest to a greater number of people and in many instances involve the local government, service clubs and volunteers. These events are usually repeated on an annual or semi-annual basis.

Major event signs will be permitted on privately owned land in advance of the entrance to the community hosting the event and at the access road junction for events at rural locations. The maximum sign size permitted is 3 square metres and the minimum letter size is 15 centimetres (6 inches).

Major event signs may be allowed in the highway right-of-way in some circumstances if a special request is received and approved by the department.

One sign may be installed on each highway entering the host community in advance of the community entrance. Events occurring at rural locations or in communities located off the highway will be permitted to install one sign for each direction of travel along the highway at the access road junction.

The signs can be installed 30 days prior to the event and are to be removed or covered when the event is completed.

Major provincial events which primarily draw participants and spectators from Alberta may have event signs installed up to 90 days in advance of the event.

Signs announcing major events of international or national interest which bring global exposure to areas of the province can be installed up to 6 months in advance of the event.

No permit is required for the installation of the signs.

Minor Event

These are events of limited, local interest and normally last for one day or less and will usually be sponsored by a service club or local organization.

Signs for minor events will be permitted within the highway right-of-way offset a minimum of 6 metres from the edge of the nearest travel lane. The maximum size of each sign permitted is 1.5 square metres. The minimum letter size to be used on any sign is 15 centimetres. Homemade signs will be permitted providing they are attractive and properly designed and fabricated.

One sign will be permitted on each highway entrance into a community or in advance of the access road into the community for those communities located off the highway. Events occurring at rural locations will be permitted to install one sign for each direction of travel along the highway at the access road junction. All signs may be placed 5 days prior to the event and are to be removed once the event is completed.

No permit is required for signs meeting the above requirements.

Banners

No banners are allowed along Alberta highways except street/lamp post banners within urban municipalities (cities, towns, villages, and hamlets). No banners are allowed at interchanges.

Post banners must serve the community and promote community events only (i.e., town fair). Banners shall be a maximum of 1.5 square metres in area.

Banner designs and locations must be approved by Alberta Transportation prior to installation.

Real Estate

A temporary sign will be permitted on any parcel of land or commercial business that is offered for sale, lease or rent. The sign will be permitted to include a brief description of the property offered, the real estate agent's name and company and the company phone number and business address.

For small parcels of land (parcels up to 1 acre), one sign up to a maximum size of 1.5 square metres will be permitted for each individual parcel offered. Large parcels and commercial properties will be permitted one sign up to a maximum size of 3 square metres for each parcel offered. Real estate signs may only be placed on private property, outside the highway right-of-way.

The sign must be removed immediately once the transaction has occurred. Any additional signs stating, “sold by”, “leased by”, or “acquired by” will not be permitted. A permit to install the sign is not required.

Garage Sale

Garage sales are typically one day events. A temporary sign will be permitted in each direction of travel in advance of the nearest access point to the garage sale. Garage sale signs may only be placed on private property.

The maximum allowable size of each sign is 1.5 square metres. The signs will be permitted to include the address of the garage sale and the times which it will be operating.

Signs may be placed 12 hours in advance of the event start time and must be removed once the event is completed. A permit to install the sign is not required.

Sign Placement

When placing signs, reference should be made to the Recommended Practices guideline for the Placement of Signs.

Where a sign permit from Alberta Transportation is not required for the installation of signs, care must be taken when selecting an appropriate installation location. If sign posts are to be buried in the ground, the sign owner must undertake an investigation to determine that no buried utilities exist in the area before digging holes to install sign posts.

Temporary signs should be ‘stand alone’, i.e., they should not be placed on the same sign structure as existing highway signage.

Installation and Maintenance

The installation, maintenance and removal of temporary signs are the responsibility of the sign owner and the department assumes no liability as a result of accidents or claims arising from the installation, maintenance or removal of the signs.

Signs must be maintained in a clean and safe manner. Any damaged sign must be removed or repaired immediately at the expense of the sign owner. The department is not responsible for the repair of any sign damage occurring as a result of normal highway construction and maintenance.

References to Standards

<i>Recommended Practices</i> Section: General	Placement of Signs
<i>Public Highways Development Act</i>	Regulation 242/90
<i>Traffic Safety Act</i>	